



January 2014 Special Programs Fire Island National Seashore

For More Information: 631-687-4750. www.nps.gov/fiis

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Wednesday

January 1
10 am – 1 pm

New Year's Day Hike – Wilderness Visitor Center to the Old Inlet Breach

Free program; call for information: 631-281-3010 (weekends) or 631-687-4780 (weekdays)

Celebrate the New Year on Fire Island. Discover the stark beauty of the winter beach during this invigorating 3-mile ranger-led hike to the breach at Old Inlet and back. Dress for the weather and for walking on sand. Bring a light snack, drinking water and binoculars.

Wednesday

January 1
10 am – 11 am

New Year's Day at the Fire Island Lighthouse – Fire Island Lighthouse

Free program, reservations requested; call for information/reservations: 631-661-4876

Meet at Robert Moses State Park, Field #5 and celebrate the New Year with the Fire Island Lighthouse Preservation Society during this one hour guided walk to the lighthouse. Tower tours will be offered throughout the day at the regular fee.

Saturday

January 11
9 am – 10:30 am

Lighthouse Keepers Behind-the-Scenes Tour – Fire Island Lighthouse

\$20 fee; reservations required, space is limited; call for reservations/information: 631-661-4876

Follow a present day Lighthouse Keeper on his rounds. This bottom to top tour takes you from the auxiliary generator and workshop in the basement of the Keeper's Quarters to the beacon in the lantern room of the lighthouse tower. Tour includes a visit to the Lens Building which houses the original first order Fresnel Lens. Parking is available at Robert Moses State Park, Field #5.

Sunday

January 12
Noon – 2 pm

Picture This! Photography Workshop – Fire Island Lighthouse Fresnel Lens Building

Free program; call for information: 631-281-3010 (weekends) or 631-687-4780 (weekdays)

Join a park ranger to learn how to take that perfect picture. After an indoor presentation, bundle up and head out to the beach and surrounding lighthouse area for some outdoor practice with your camera. This program is geared for novice photographers, young adult and up. Bring your camera and dress for the weather.

Sunday

January 19
10 am – 11:30 pm

Winter Beach Botany – Wilderness Visitor Center

Free program; call for information: 631-281-3010 (weekends) or 631-687-4780 (weekdays)

Explore barrier island trees, shrubs, wildflowers, and grasses – now without their leaves and flowers. Learn tips for winter plant identification, plant folklore and natural history. Dress for the wind and weather and for walking on sand.

Saturday

January 25
1 pm – 2:30 pm

Winter Shelling – Wilderness Visitor Center

Free program; call for information: 631-281-3010 (weekends) or 631-687-4780 (weekdays)

A treasure trove of seashells and other gifts from nature await your discovery. Walk the beach with a park ranger to explore what the winter waves have brought ashore. Dress for the weather and for walking on sand.

Sunday

January 26
10 am – noon

Old Mastic Way to the Bay – William Floyd Estate

Free program; call for information: 631-399-2030

This 3-mile ranger-guided walk explores the natural and human history of the William Floyd Estate. Make your way from the Old Mastic House to Moriches Bay following roads well used by the Floyd family from the mid-1700s to the 1970s. Pass through fields and woods; and by mounds and ditches, cultural plantings, fresh water creeks, and salt marshes. Dress for the weather.

(over)

Fire Island National Seashore Facilities open during January 2014

Fire Island Lighthouse - 631-661-4876

Through February 28: Open daily 10 am – 4 pm weekdays, 11 am – 4 pm weekends
Tower tours as available weekdays, 11 am - 3 pm weekends

Wilderness Visitor Center- 631-281-3010

Through February: Open Friday – Sunday & holidays, 9 am – 4 pm.

New: Backcountry camping reservations for required permits must be obtained online at Recreation.gov.

Access to east and west wilderness/backcountry camping zones is from Watch Hill only, as long as the breach at Old Inlet is open. There is no access from the Wilderness Visitor Center at this time.

Ferry service to Fire Island is limited. Ferry from Sayville to Fire Island Pines: weekends only from December 23 through March 9 = 5½ - 10 mile hike

William Floyd Estate - 631-399-2030

Closed until May 2014, grounds will be open for special programs during the winter and spring.

Guided Old Mastic House Tours Closed for the season

Park Headquarters in Patchogue - 631-687-4750

Open all year, Monday - Friday, 9:30 am – 4 pm (Closed on federal holidays)

Patchogue-Watch Hill Ferry Terminal

Closed until May 2014, but watch for special programs!

Sailors Haven and Watch Hill Facilities and The Pier at Watch Hill Restaurant Closed until May 2014

Watch Hill Campground - 631-597-6664 www.watchhillfi.com

Reservations for 2014 season accepted on-line in January 2014.